

PRESIDENT McINLEY'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

REVIEW OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Attitude of the United States Toward China and Relations with Other Foreign Countries—Important Recommendations.

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

At the outgoing of the old and the incoming of the new year you begin the last session of the Fifty-sixth Congress with evidences on every hand of individual and national prosperity and with proof of the growing strength and increasing power for good of republican institutions. Your countrymen will join with you in felicitations that American liberty is more firmly established than ever before, and that love for it and the determination to preserve it are more universal than at any former period of our history.

The republic was never so strong, because never so strongly entrenched in the hearts of the people as now. The Constitution, with few amendments, exists as it left the hands of its authors. The addition of larger freedom and more extended citizenship. Popular government has demonstrated in its 124 years of trial here its stability and security, and its efficiency as the best instrument of national development and the best safeguard to human rights.

When the Sixth Congress assembled in November, 1800, the population of the United States was 3,506,453. It is now 75,547,796. Then we had sixteen States. Now we have forty-five. Then our territory consisted of 350,000 square miles. It is now 3,550,000 square miles. Education, religion, and morality have kept pace with our advancement in other directions, and while extending its power the government has adhered to its foundation principles and abated none of them in dealing with our new peoples and possessions. A nation so preserved and blessed gives reverent thanks to God and invokes His guidance and the continuance of His care and favor.

In our foreign intercourse the dominant question has been the treatment of the Chinese problem. Apart from this our relations with the powers have been happy.

Troubles in China.
The recent troubles in China spring from the anti-foreign agitation which for the past three years has gained strength in the northern provinces. Their origin lies deep in the character of the Chinese races and in the traditions of their government. The Taiping rebellion and the opening of Chinese ports to foreign trade and settlement disturbed alike the homogeneity and the seclusion of China.

Meanwhile foreign activity made itself felt in all quarters, not alone on the coast, but along the great river arteries and in the remote districts, carrying new ideas and introducing new associations among a primitive people which had pursued centuries a national policy of isolation.

The telegraph and the railway spreading over their land, the steamers plying on their waterways, the merchant and the missionary penetrating year by year farther to the interior, became to the Chinese mind types of an alien invasion, changing the course of their national life and fraught with vague forebodings of disaster to their beliefs and their self-control.

For several years before the present troubles all the resources of foreign diplomacy, backed by moral demonstrations of the physical force of fleets and armies, have been needed to secure due respect for the treaty rights of foreigners and to obtain satisfaction from the responsible authorities for the sporadic outrages upon the persons and property of unoffending foreigners, which have been so common at widely separated points in the northern provinces, as in the case of the outbreaks in Sze-chuen and Shan-tung.

Posting of anti-foreign placards became a daily occurrence, with the repeated reprobation of the imperial power failed to check or punish. These inflammatory appeals to the ignorance and superstition of the masses, made and work in their accented and deeply bigoted spirit, could not but work cumulative harm. They aimed at no particular class of foreigners; they were impartial in attacking every foreigner, whether he was a missionary, a trader, or a laborer. German missionaries were slain, was the too natural result of these malevolent teachings. The posting of seditious placards, exhorting to the utter destruction of foreigners and of every foreign thing, continued unbroken. Hostile demonstrations toward the stranger gained strength by organization.

The sect commonly styled the Boxers developed greatly in the provinces north of the Yangtze, and with the collusion of many notable officials, including some in the immediate councils of the throne itself, became alarmingly aggressive. No foreigners' life, outside of the protected treaty ports, was safe. No foreign interest was secure from spoliation.

Protest of the Powers.
The diplomatic representatives of the powers in Peking strove in vain to check this movement. Protest was followed by demand and demand by renewed protest, to respect the sovereignty of its government, and to insure by all legitimate

means the fullest measure of protection for the lives and property of our law-abiding citizens and for the exercise of their beneficial callings among the Chinese people.

Open-door Policy.
Mindful of this, it was felt to be appropriate that our purposes should be pronounced in favor of such course as would hasten ultimate action of the powers at Peking to promote the free and equitable trade of the open-door policy, and to maintain the integrity of China, in which we believed the whole western world to be alike interested. To these ends I caused to be addressed to the several powers occupying territory and maintaining spheres of influence in China the circular proposal of 1899, inviting from them declarations of their intentions and views as to the desirability of the adoption of measures insuring the benefits of equality of treatment of all foreign trade throughout China.

With gratifying unanimity the responses coincided in this common policy, enabling me to see in the successful termination of these negotiations proof of the friendly spirit which animates the various powers interested in the untrammelled development of commerce and industry in China, and the source of vast benefit to the whole commercial world.

In this conclusion, which I had the gratification to announce as a completed effort to the interested powers on November 23, 1900, I hopefully discerned a potential factor and a statement of the distrust of foreign powers which, for a year past, had appeared to inspire the policy of the imperial government, and the effective exertion by it of power and influence to check the critical anti-foreign movement in the northern provinces immediately influenced by the Manchurian situation.

In looking to testify confidence in the willingness and ability of the imperial administration to redress the wrongs and prevent the evils we suffered and feared, the marine guard which had been sent to Peking in the autumn of 1899 for the protection of the legations, withdrawn at the earliest practicable moment, and all pending questions were remitted, as far as we were concerned, to the ordinary resorts of diplomatic intercourse.

Unable to Check Boxers.
The Chinese government proved, however, unable to check the rising strength of the Boxers, and to prevent the evils we suffered and feared, the marine guard which had been sent to Peking in the autumn of 1899 for the protection of the legations, withdrawn at the earliest practicable moment, and all pending questions were remitted, as far as we were concerned, to the ordinary resorts of diplomatic intercourse.

Still the peril increased. The legations reported the development of the seditious movement in Peking and the need of increased provision for defense against it. While the preparations were in progress for a larger expedition, to strengthen the legation guards and keep the railway open, an attempt of the foreign ships to make a landing at Taku was met by a fire from the forts. The forts were thereupon shelled by the foreign vessels, the American admiral taking no part in the attack, on the ground that we were not at war with China and that a hostile demonstration might compromise the anti-foreign elements and strengthen the Boxers to oppose the relieving column.

Two days later the Taku forts were captured after a sanguinary conflict. Several days of communication with Peking followed, and a combined force of additional troops, which was advancing to Peking by the Pei-Ho, was checked at Langfang. The isolation of the legations was complete.

Siege and Relief of Legations.
The siege and the relief of the legations has passed into our history. In all the stirring chapter which records the heroism of the devoted band, clinging to hope in the face of despair, and the undaunted spirit that led their relievers through the fire, the memory of the goal, it is a memory of which the honor of our flag was maintained alike in the siege and the rescue, and that stout American hearts have again set high, fervent emulation with true men of other races and languages, the indomitable courage that ever strives for the cause of right and justice.

By June 19 the legations were cut off, and while nominally stigmatized as fortresses, it was felt that the spirit pervaded the fortresses and the imperial guards were imbued with its doctrines, and that the immediate counselors of the Emperor Dowager were in full sympathy with the anti-foreign movement.

The increasing gravity of the conditions in China and the imminence of peril to our own diversified interest in the empire, as well as to those of all the other treaty governments, were soon appreciated by the government, causing it profound solicitude. The United States from the earliest days of foreign intercourse with China had followed a policy of peace, uniting no occasions to testify good will, to further the extension of lawful trade, to respect the sovereignty of its government, and to insure by all legitimate

means the fullest measure of protection for the lives and property of our law-abiding citizens and for the exercise of their beneficial callings among the Chinese people.

British Legation a Fortress.
Attempts were made to burn the legations by setting neighboring houses on fire, but the flames were successfully fought off although the Austrian, Belgian, Italian, and Dutch legations were then and subsequently burned. With the aid of the native converts, directed by a Chinese Empire, whose helpful cooperation Mr. Conger warmly commended, the British Legation was made a veritable fortress. The British Minister, Sir Claude MacDonald, was chosen general commander of the defense, with the secretary of the American Legation, Mr. E. G. Squiers, as chief of staff.

To save life and ammunition, the besieged sparingly returned the incessant fire of the Chinese soldiers, fighting only to repel attack or make an occasional successful sortie for strategic advantage, such as that of fifty-five American, British, and Russian marines, led by Capt. Myers, of the United States Marine Corps, which resulted in the capture of a formidable barricade on the wall that gravely menaced the American position. It was held to the last, and proved an invaluable acquisition, because commanding the water gate through which the relief column entered.

During the siege the defenders lost fifty-five killed and 135 wounded, and seven by disease, the last all Chinese. On July 14 the besiegers and their first communication with the tsung-li-yamen, from whom a message came inviting to a conference, which was declined. Correspondence, however, ensued, and a sort of armistice was agreed upon which stopped the bombardment and lessened the rifle fire for a time. Even then no protection whatever was afforded, nor any aid given, save to send the legations a small supply of fruit and three sacks of flour.

Indeed, the only communication had with the Chinese government related to the occasional delivery or dispatch of a telegram or to the demands of the tsung-li-yamen for the withdrawal of the legations to the coast under escort. Not only are the protestations of the Chinese government that it protected and succored the legations positively contradicted, but the irrefutable proof accumulates that the attacks upon them were made by imperial troops, regularly uniformed, armed, and officered, belonging to the command of the Chinese government.

With the negotiation of the partial armistice of July 14, the government was doubtless promoted by the representations of the Chinese envoy in Washington, the way was opened for the conveyance to Mr. Conger of a test message by the Secretary of State, which the kind offices of Minister Wu Ting-fang, Mr. Conger's reply, dispatched from Peking on July 18 through the same channel, afforded to the outside world the first tidings that the imperial government was still alive and hoping for success.

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Boer Sympathizers Checked.
Mr. Kruger's reception at Cologne was exceedingly enthusiastic so far as the citizens were concerned. They had planned to receive him with a great demonstration, but the police forbade both. His dispatches to Count von Buelow, the imperial chancellor, and to the heads of the German states, were not allowed.

People and Press of One Opinion.
On the other hand, the government's attitude is certainly condemned by a large portion of the nation, and there can be no question that a vast majority of the people remain pro-Kruger. Yesterday even the court preacher, Dr. Krittner, in the new cathedral, delivered a discourse filled with sentiments strongly in favor of the Boer cause, and exhorting Mr. Kruger, concluding as follows: "Merciful God, be to him and to his people a savior and helper in their time of need."

South African Crisis.
Colonial Cabinet in Daily Session—Dutch Demonstration at Worcester.
Cape Town, Dec. 3.—The colonial cabinet met yesterday, holding the first meeting that has been held on a Sunday within twenty-five years. The ministers met again to-day to discuss the anti-British agitation.

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COSTLY TERMS TO AVOID PRISON.

Ten Officials to Resign, Forewarned Official, Pay Costs, and Sign Confessions.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 3.—The Scranton councilmanic bribery case did not come before the Lackawanna court to-day, as had been expected, but will come up tomorrow or Wednesday. There was a hitch in the arrangements entered into to avoid prosecution, by reason of one of the accused men desiring to break the agreement made on Saturday night to resign, pay costs, and forewarn public office for five years. One of the judges is said to have also regarded the arrangement as trifling with the work of the court, and it required some time to bring about the necessary changes.

The ten accused men will, it is said, resign at Thursday's meeting of the council. The agreement which the accused councilmen are said to have promised to sign provides for the fulfillment of the following conditions: To resign their seats on council and not to seek re-election for a period of five years; to pay all the costs of prosecution, and return to the Municipal League the money which the league has expended in the prosecution of these cases, estimated at \$2,000; to sign a paper that they acknowledge that their actions in council justify their arrest and prosecution, and that they admit that during the trial they were influenced by money. These are the conditions exacted by the Municipal League.

The councilmen stand accused of having received or solicited bribes for the passage of ordinances granting telephone and other franchises.

STAGGERED BY KAISER
Rebuff to Paul Kruger Fatal to Boer Diplomacy.

DEPLORED BY PEOPLE OF GERMANY

Emperor's Action Calls For General Condemnation Except in Diplomatic Circles—Cologne Police Prohibit Demonstrations of Sympathy for the Boer President—Organs of All Shades of Opinion Unite in Pro-Boer Sentiments.

Berlin, Dec. 3.—The government's curt and decisive intimation that Emperor William would not receive Paul Kruger has created a profound impression throughout Germany. "What may be called the anti-British section of the press does not conceal its annoyance, and the modern Anglophobe organs with difficulty repress the utterances of disappointment."

The inspired journals declare that it was Germany's desire to intimate definitely to the Boers that they were not to be welcomed, and therefore, the fact that he omitted to comply with the strict etiquette of the German court and deferred asking Emperor William for an audience until the last moment, was regarded as a denial of his status as a sovereign.

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ENVOYS' ORDERS CLASH

Powers Seemingly Unable to Agree on Joint Note.

Prinze Ching and Earl Li Not Hopeful That Any Terms Would Be Acceptable to China So Long as a Foreign Army Holds Chiao-Ping Province—Missionaries and Others Still Calling Out for the Punishment of High Officials—Massacre in Shan-shi.

Peking, Dec. 3.—All the foreign envoys have now heard from their governments regarding the joint note to the Chinese plenipotentiaries, and a meeting will be held to-morrow. The envoys are not comminatory; but enough is known with reference to the objections of different governments to make it seem doubtful that the meeting will have a satisfactory conclusion.

Prinze Ching and Li Hung Chang both say that they are anxiously awaiting the demands of the powers. They declare that China desires peace at any price commensurate with the dignity of an independent nation; but they point out that, so long as a large foreign army occupies the province of Chiao-Ping, the problem will be harder to solve.

The missionaries and others who went through the siege protest at hostility against any suggestion of leniency. They urge particularly that those who are high in office and who were really responsible for the outrages to foreigners, should be executed; and that justice should be done to the Chinese people.

London, Dec. 4.—"Placards are again being posted," says the Tientsin correspondent of the Standard, writing Sunday, "announcing a renewal of the anti-foreign outbreaks as imminent."

The Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post says the Hankow viceroy told Vice Admiral Seymour during the latter's recent visit that the court would never return to Peking as long as the seditious elements, the Nankin viceroy holds just the contrary opinion.

Chinese Estimate of Waldenses.
St. Petersburg, Dec. 3.—Kwan Chang, an attaché of the Chinese Legation here, in an interview to-day, said: "It is futile for Field Marshal von Waldersee to send into the interior expeditions, the presence of which only irritates the natives and increases their animosity toward the Europeans. The Emperor will not return to Peking as long as foreign troops, beyond the legation guards, are there. Should it be necessary, the Emperor will fly farther than Shan-shi."

Massacre Story from Shan-shi.
A special dispatch from China to the Volks-Zeitung reports a massacre of Christians in the province of Shan-shi. The first victims, the dispatch says, were a Catholic bishop and his coadjutors and four European priests, Franciscans, Italians and French. The governor invited them to his house, pretending to give them better protection; but when they arrived their hands were tied. Then the governor himself poured down upon them a hail of bullets.

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COUNTRESS GETS \$20,000 A MONTH.

Castellane-Gould Injunction Order Modified by Mutual Consent.

New York, Dec. 3.—The suit of Antoine J. Dittmar against George J. Gould, Howard Gould, Edwin Gould, and Helen M. Gould, as trustees under the will of Jay Gould, to restrain them from paying the Countess de Castellane any portion of their income from the Gould property was called in the Supreme Court to-day before Justice Leventritt.

A representative of the law firm of Guggenheimer, Untermeyer & Marshall, attorneys for Dittmar, asked that the case be held over until the second call of the calendar, and Justice Leventritt acquiesced.

Col. James, the attorney for the Goulds, made an additional application to have the injunction order modified to the extent that the trustees could pay out of the income of the trust funds at the rate of \$20,000 per year to the Countess de Castellane pending the final decision of the court. This application was opposed by Mr. Untermeyer, counsel for the plaintiff, and after discussion Judge Leventritt directed all the parties in interest to appear before Justice Fitzgerald, who granted the original order.

Mr. Gardner said at his office subsequently that the matter had been arranged without appearing before Judge Fitzgerald in the following manner:

"Pending the hearing and determination of the injunction motion, the trustees of the will of Jay Gould agreed to permit to pay to the Countess de Castellane one-twelfth of \$250,000 per month, on the condition that the Goulds would not on the last of December, 1900, and except as thus modified the injunction order is to remain in force until the originally granted by Judge Fitzgerald."

The case was adjourned to December 17.

DEWEY ARCH FUND TURNED BACK.
Committee Votes to Refund Money and Then Disbands Finally.

New York, Dec. 3.—By a vote of 10 to 3, the executive committee of the citizens' committee for perpetuating the naval arch, or Dewey arch, as it was originally called, to-day decided to disband and to return to the subscribers the money collected for the project. The abandonment of the plan is due to lack of interest displayed by the public.

After this decision was reached Rear Admiral Barker, commandant of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and Capt. Taylor appeared before the committee, and urged that the money be returned to the subscribers. The committee suggested that they transfer the amount of their subscriptions, and pledges to the Club for Enlisted Men in Navy, which is situated near the navy yard. Miss Helen Gould, who has shown great interest in the club, and has given liberal subscriptions toward its support. The committee agreed to this.

DEATH RECALLS FAMOUS ROBBERY.
Murphy's Employer Refused to Believe He Was Concerned in Theft of \$1,000,000.

New York, Dec. 3.—Owen Murphy, who died last night, was a half century old, and a man well-known in Wall street, died from old age this morning in Brooklyn. Mr. Murphy was in the employ of Lord & Taylor, who was robbed in broad daylight of bonds and securities to the value of \$1,000,000, up to that time the heaviest robbery in the history of Wall street, and he subsequently passed through a remarkable experience at the hands of the police.

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FIVE BLOWN TO DEATH

Terrific Boiler Explosion in Chicago Power House.

Chicago, Dec. 3.—Four men and one boy were instantly killed and thirteen people injured by the explosion of a boiler in the power house of the Chicago and North western road this evening. Several of the injured are hurt so badly that they may die. The dead:

TRAIN IN PATH OF FLYING DEBRIS
Thirteen Passengers and Others Injured, Including Two Bridal Couples—Mrs. Beck, One of the Injured, Will Probably Die—Power House Practically Demolished and Traffic Blocked—No Theory as to the Cause of the Explosion.

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